THE CONE COLLECTOR

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THE CONE COLLECTOR

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On front & back cover
Living *Cylinder textile* (Linnaeus, 1758) *f. eumitus* Tomlin, 1926, taken by Armando R. Moura in 1976, at low tide in Závora Bay

Note from the Editor

Dear friends,

The last number of TCC dates from August, 2015. Yes, that is one year ago! There is a simple explanation for that long delay in bringing you another number: we did not have enough articles to produce it!

Do remember that we need everybody's collaboration to make each new number of out bulletin. I urge you to send along articles, photos of exceptional or unusual specimens, reports of your field trips, comments on any issues raised by published articles, anything really that has to do with the biology of Cones and with Cone collecting.

That being said, I believe that we have here quite an interesting number.

Our friend Peter Bedbur steps forward in the Who's Who section and we have articles addressing vastly different points relating to Cones, from field trips in Cape Verde and Mozambique to discussion on the geographical distribution of species, and, of course, lots of fabulous photos, news of New Publications, and a note about the recent Colloquium held in Paris; sadly, the inclusion of yet another obituary proved necessary.

Most importantly, you will find much useful information concerning the 4th International Shell Meeting, which will take place next October in Brussels, Belgium. We already have a large number of registered participants, but if any of you is willing to go to Brussels and has not registered yet, please do so as soon as possible, to help us organize everything! We promise that a good time will be had by all those attending!

As always, I thank the authors who prepared articles for this number of TCC and especially André Poremski for the outstanding graphic presentation of our magazine.

So, enjoy and do keep in touch.

António Monteiro

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Who's Who in Cones

Peter Bedbur

I was born in 1945 in the countryside of middle Germany. From 1968 to 1969 I was an exchange student in Horticulture in Southern California - living in a small street-village right by the beach. Here I spent some time after work observing how nature and the coastline changed during low - and high-tides. Others also did this, carrying a small booklet „Seashells of the World" by Tucker Abbott with pictures of seashells, and handwritten notes on the side showing the prices of the mussels and shells. I did not quite understand the meaning of this, but thought it had something to do with making money!

However, I collected small shells and things which I found on the beach or reef. I was fascinated by the nature and the different shapes and glued them onto a small frame as a souvenir (figure 1). Over the following years this wall picture from Encinitas escorted my life but without any background or knowledge about the collection.

Back home in Germany I changed completely my profession and spent vacations in very different parts of the world, such as the Philippines (Zamboanga), Martinique, Barbados, Kenya and various European countries - but without any interest in shells.

Once I travelled with a good friend to the Philippines and in Cebu I got a Murex alabaster from a shell dealer,

Mr. Roque Cantos senior, as a present. I admired this beauty but I thought it was rather trashy. From then on every journey I brought home more shells from various countries. In 1977 I became a member of the German Club, Conchylia. My collection started to expand. It spread out to include beautiful examples from all the shell families. It took some time to organize my shells well. One day I found out that many Muricidae were there and I built a glass cabinet for them. For a couple of years I collected only Cassidae and kept them in another showcase. In this way the collection went up and down with sometimes more or sometimes fewer new shells: this varied with time, interest and space. But one may remark, on the side, that I always kept an eye on Conus finding that this family is so unbelievable varied in design and colour, shape and form, yet only conoid. For much of the time I used Tucker Abbott and Peter Dances' "Compendium of Seashells", and later Walls "Conidae" along with "Conidae" from Röckel, Korn Kohn.

I organized my first Cone collection after Röckel's first written with a typewriter in German ("Die Familie Conidae" 1979-1988). Conus were photographed and the pictures glued into each edition. Each sheet covered one species with a picture. There were 106 Supplements covering 606 species! At this time it was the most expensive – but loving, exclusive work on the market. There were recommendations for groups in Conus, for example, *monachus*, *vittatus*, *generalis*, *planorbis* etc.

It was like a bible. All my Conus were then ordered according to this pattern.

After this I got hold of "The Systematic Classification of the Family Conidae" from A. J. da Motta, and so began a new era. New systematics means renewed organisation, even though I wondered at times about some difficult-to-understand relations within the family.

About three years ago Carsten Renker from Conch Books called me and asked for connections to Cone-collectors in my area of Germany (Düsseldorf) to help Bill Fenzan from the USA in his research. He was on visit to Europe at that time – visits that he has repeated several times. So we got in contact and since then I have been 'vaccinated' with Conus more than before.

Last but not least John K. Tucker and Manuel J. Tenorio arrived on the scene with their book, an "Illustrated Catalogue of the Living Cone Shells". At first I was shocked because of the price, but then I found my new love. This meant that all my Conus examples had to be handled (and cleaned) again and the old Subgenus became the new Genus. But at the end of the day the result is much easier to understand. Figures 2 and 3 show a few from my collection in 2015.

Once I informed my friend Bill Fenzan about ending my travels in accordance with the "Illustrated Catalogue of the Living Cone Shells". He said, Peter there is another "New classification of the Cone Snails", written by N. Puillandre, T. F. Duda, C. Meyer, B. M. Olivera and P. Bouchet from 2014. Please notice - to avoid any misunderstanding - I said Yes, I will: but I will never move the collection again!

For a better understanding of my system I shall provide this new information too. When I obtain a new shell it will get a number and all the data about the shell will be in excel. From this I shall be able to print a simple label and set it beside the shell in a perplex track. So I have an optical overall viewing unit. The original labels will be separated in boxes so as not to get lost. This too is an individual matter and up to everyone´s own fantasy and need.

The Meeting in Madrid 2014 was very helpful, also for a collector like myself - beeing happy with the enormous beauty and the great variety of nature underwater.

In October 2016 we will see us in Brussel hopeful to learn more about Conus.

A Malacological Curiosity

Armando Reis Moura

As I was reading issue no 26 (December, 2014) of *The Cone Colletor*, I was particularly interested by the reference made by my friends José Rosado and António Monteiro to the fact that a Specimen of Xenophora from Mozambique (collected near Inhambane, south Mozambique) had glued to its shell a specimen of *Yeddoconus ione* Fulton, 1938, which was wonderfully illustrated.

Since I also lived for 15 years in that great country, which I very much miss, I was able to collect a few specimens of *Xenophora corrugata* (Reeve, 1842), taken off Inhaca Island (latitude 26º south), by shrimp trawlers, about 400 metres deep.

As is well known, those molluscs search for different materials available on the bottoms where they live and use them to disguise themselves by gluing them to their own shells.

Besides small rock fragments, they are known to use other items, such as dead shells of the most varied sorts. One of the specimens I found even carried two live barnacles when it was collected.

The few specimens I keep in my collection show not only barnacles but also shells of Cassis, Fusus, Terebra, Cerithium, and even *Bathyconus orbignyi* Audouin, 1831; on the illustrated specimen three such Cones can be seen.

I was curious to notice that specimens of Xenophoras were collected off Farol da Ponta do Ouro* (latitude 26º 51' south), the last lighthouse in the country, if one is following the route of the Cape of Good Hope, have the particularity of often using pieces not only of mineral coal that the old steamers used in their boilers, but even of pig iron, as such fragments were thrown overboard during routine cleansing.

Xenophora with one *Bathyconus orbigyi*

Xenophora with three specimens of *Bathyconus orbignyi* and two barnacles (alive at the moment of capture)

(*) O Farol da Ponta do Ouro foi aceso em Março de 1934 e seus relâmpagos de luz branca têm o alcance efectivo para uma elevação de 5 metros, de 22 milhas marítimas.

Cat Island, Bahamas Collecting Trip

Dale Bittner

Xenophora with bits of mineral coal and pig iron

Bathyconus orbignyi Audouin, 1831

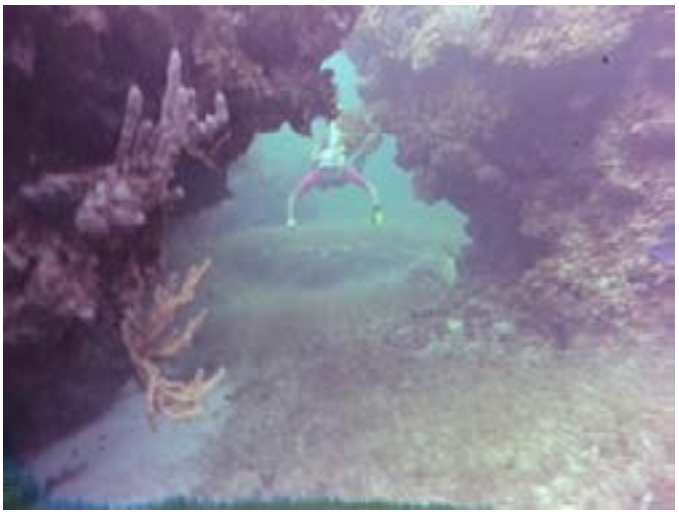
Cat Island

During the past summer Melissa, my fiancé, really wanted to take a vacation to the Bahamas to relax and do some exploring. We had been doing a lot of snorkeling, which led to my renewed interest in shell collecting, and Conus in particular. Thus, I began to look at Google Earth images to chose an intriguing island to explore.

We were looking for one that was somewhat remote and less inhabited than the more well known islands. Also, there needed to be deep water close to land. Our first choice was Long Island based on a recommendation from a friend who has a second home there. The problem was the resort we wanted to stay at is closed in September.

We then looked into Cat Island with the deep Atlantic Ocean on the east and south side of the island. It is also in a fairly remote area of the Bahamas. While I wanted to make sure we experienced a nice vacation, my sights were set on finding some of the amazing variations of the *C. cardinalis* complex or even *C. granulatus* based on what has been found on other islands in the Bahamas chain.

It turned out to be a great choice! We flew from Ft. Lauderdale to Nassau then directly to Cat Island,



which has two airports. We were in the water in the afternoon on the day we arrived, enjoying a reef right off the beach. It was fine for sightseeing, however, not a good daytime location for cones as there was very little rubble to look under.

In speaking with Jerry, the proprietor of the Flamingo Bay Club where we stayed, he suggested an area east, which is near Winding Bay on the southeast area of the island toward Columbus Point. The only dive shop was also closed in September and there are no boats to rent, so everything would be done via shore entry snorkeling, which was fine with us. We live in Key West and do a lot of snorkeling there when we collect. There are not many boats on the island, and in fact we saw only one power boat offshore in the five days we were there.

The next afternoon Jerry drove us to a former school site, which had a boat ramp. From there we could wade then snorkel to an exposed reef area. On our way we began finding small white cones in the sand in 2-4 meters of water with a very small exposed rocky area nearby. They were all white with a faint flecked pattern similar to the *C. jaspideus* we find in the Keys, only slightly larger (up to 21mm). We found over twenty and many were in good shape. One small *C. flavescens* was also found.

The area was low energy being inside a barrier reef, which led me to believe the white coloration was not due to being beach worn. It appeared to be a result of the predominantly sand habitat. Even the numerous *Tonna maculosa* (Patridge Tuns) were lightly colored compared to the dark browns we have in the Keys. However, none of the cones we found were alive. This area would have been interesting at night as certainly live specimens would be exposed.

Our sights were set on the reef outside of us and still quite a ways off so we continued on. As we approached the reef there was an abundant amount of coral rubble and it seemingly looked great. There were polychaetes (bristle worms) and large coral debries to look under. I found several Atlantic Tritons (*Charionia variegata*) amonth the reef cuts and grooves, however, we didn't find any cones and really didn't see an abundance of mollusks in general. We took a look on the outside of the reef, however we we running short on time and needed to start making the swim back to shore. I was disappointed to have not found any cones and just as we started heading back were amazed to find an abundance of mature *Cassis tuberosa* (king helmets) in a small area. We worked our way back in and vowed to come back to give a longer look at this very interesting reef.

Bird Rocks

When I described what type of habitat we were

interested in snorkeling, Jerry confirmed an area north of the midpoint of the island (about 50 miles long) on the East side known as Bird Rocks. It would not be easy to travel to as there is only one highway along which the majority of the population lives, that tracks the leeward (west) side of this island. To get to this area would require a rental car, getting used to driving on the opposite side of the road, crossing the island on a very rocky unpaved road with elevation and dense foliage overhanging into the rough terrain. There are no street signs or homes after turning off the main route. Again, we were looking for adventure and excited to explore Bird Rocks.

The next morning after Jerry dropped us off to rent a car we were on our way. The directions were to head North along the main road, turn at place called "Yardies" and then traverse across the island through a dumping site until the road ends at the beach on the eastern side. We eventually found the end of the road and the only sign of anyone within many kilometers or so was a vehicle and crude boat ramp, whereby the truck is used to pull the boat up the beach via many ropes tied to together.

The boat is launched by rolling it down the beach with large pvc pipes. Someone was offshore that day and I suspected they were fishing or diving conch (*Strombus gigas*) for food. The beach was picturesque with not a soul nor a building to be seen in either direction. It occurred to me weeks could pass by at a time without anyone walking along the beach. We carried our gear down to the water's edge and decided the narrowest gap between the beach and Bird Rocks was North to a point of land. I wasn't sure of the water depth, which turned out to be no deeper than 7-8 meters at any point in between. There was also no current moving and the ocean was calm. As soon as I went in I found a very nice *Cypraecassis testiculatus* (Reticulated Cowrie Helmet). It took awhile for us to cross and as soon as the water began it's slope toward the rocks there was perfect rubble to investigate. We began looking intently and soon I found a *J. mindanus* in excellent condition (21.5mm brown color form) under a rock. It was crabbed and clearly a fresh dead specimen. I was encouraged and kept thinking no one has been here doing this, possibly ever, therefore there must be a lot to find.

The conditions look right and although we were finding shells, not many were cones. We took a break on the shore and discovered this incredible inlet through the outside rocks, which formed a small sandy wading pool with tropical fish and *Cittarium pica* (Magpie Shell) along the inlet walls the size of grapefruit. They are not found in the Keys and another bonus for us. We went between the exposed reef to the outside drop off and began looking in the rock grooves that laced the bottom to a depth of about 10 meters.

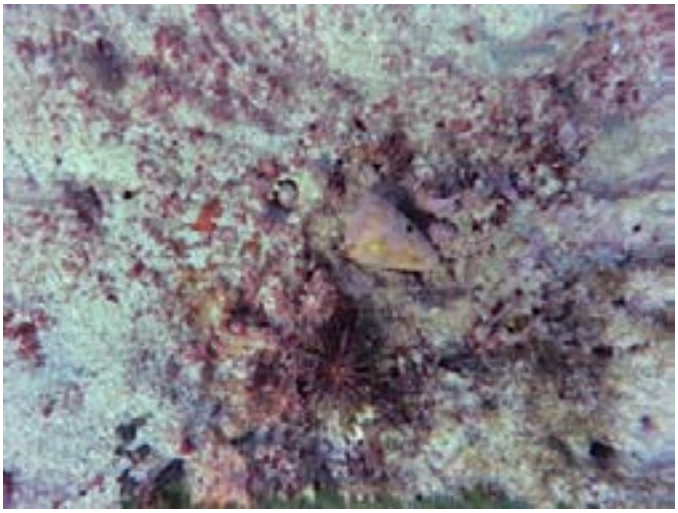
I found two more live *Cypraecassis testiculatus* in a sand filled hole and in another groove found a *Murex macgintyi* feeding on a bivalve. Only a couple very small old dead *C. regius* and *C. mus* were found. We started to work our way back in and Melissa found a small sand drop off where many dead shells were gathered in 3 meters of water. We made descent after descent picking through them and found more *C. mindanus* (pink color form), however no signs of *C. cardinalis*, *C. daucus* or *C. flavescens,* which I expected to find. During the crossing back to the beach we discovered numerous Cassis, Strombus and another new species for us, three live *Xancus angulatus* (West Indian Chank) not found in the Keys.

Back to Winding Bay

On our fourth day after fishing the morning tide change for bonefish we allotted more time to make the long swim and return to the first exposed reef off Winding Bay. Finally, I found a 52mm *C. regius* alive under a large section, then a smaller one and two *C. mus* (31mm). We completed many descents and Melissa stayed close by me after seeing a large barracuda and a reef shark. She handled these encounters very well. We completely circled the exposed reef looking and coming up empty handed. Again, we stayed as long as we could and eventually headed back in to the boat ramp as the sun had long set.

The high and arguably blind hope of finding *C. cardinalis* or *C. granulatus* diminished with all the other exciting aspects of this trip and location. With better (local) knowledge of the specific reef sites and through night diving, I am convinced these specimens would have been found as they are throughout the Bahamas Island chain. We collected over thirty types of mollusks and several bivalves. Included were five types of Conus with the only live specimens being *C. regius* and *C. mus*.

Aside from the collecting trips during our five day stay, we enjoyed the slow island rhythm, refreshing Kalik Radler beverage, clear water, incredible views,



numerous abandoned plantation homes, fly fishing for bonefish and a walk up to the highest point in all of the Bahamas - Mount Alvernia, which rises to 63m and is topped by a monastery called The Hermitage. The stay at Flamingo Bay Club could not have been better. Jerry and Donna have two guest cottages, great ocean views, a beautiful beach, a large pool and Jerry cooks an amazing dinner each night. The personal attention was incredible and a fantastic vacation overall.

Jon Singleton

We are very sorry to report the passing away out, in May 2015, of our good friend Jon Singleton, from Geraldton, Western Australia.

We had been without news from him for a long time, which led us to suppose that something might be wrong, but only recently did we have confirmation, thanks to our good friends Tervor and Marguerite Young.

Jon was a regular contributor to TCC a few years ago and featured in our column "Who's Who in Cones". A quiet, gentle man, Jon and his extensive Conidae knowledge, which he was always willing to share, will be sorely missed.

His wonderful scientific Conidae collection was bequeathed to the Western Australian Museum.

Recent Publications

The Festivus 47(3), August 2015

Edward J. Petuch & David P. Berschauer
"Two New Species of Tenorioconus (Gastropoda: Conidae) from Aruba" (pp.195-205)

Tenorioconus monicae Petuch & Berschauer, 2015
Type locality: Off Malmok, Aruba, Netherland Antilles
Etymology: The taxon honors Monica Moron from Punto Fijo, Venezuela, and Aruba

Tenorioconus rosi Petuch & Berschauer, 2015
Type locality: Off Malmok, Aruba, Netherland Antilles
Etymology: Named for Leo G. Ros, of Noord, Aruba and Scheveningen, Netherlands

Both new species are endemic of Aruba. *T. monicae* is included in the *T. mappa* species complex and is most similar to the Venezuelan coastal species *T. sanguineus* (Kiener, 1850) and *T. caracanus* (Hwass, 1792), while *T. rosi* belongs to the *T. aurantius* species complex and is most similar to the Aruban endemic *T. curassaviensis* (Hwass, 1792) and the Curacao and Bonaire endemic *T. aurantius* (Hwass, 1792).

The Festivus 47(4), November 2015

Edward J. Petuch, David P. Berschauer & André Poremski, "Additions to the Cone Shell Faunas of Australia and Aruba (Conidae, Conilithidae)" (pp. 219-228)

Teselliconus devorsinei Petuch, Berschauer, Poremski, 2015
Type locality: east of Mooloolaba, Queensland State, Australia
Etymology: Named for Remy Devorsine of Avoca Beach, New South Wales, Australia

T. devorsinei is the newest member of the genus Tesselliconus that includes *T. sandwichensis* and *T. athenae* from Hawaii, *T. kashiwajimensis* from southern Japan, and *T. edaphus* from the Panamic Province.

Jaspidiconus vantwoudti Petuch, Berschauer & Poremski, 2015
Type locality: Near Arashi Beach, Noord District, Aruba
Etymology: The taxon honours Alain Van't Woudt of Den Hoorn, The Netherlands

J. vantwoudti is endemic of Aruba Island.

~

Kirk Fitzhugh, "What are Species? Or, on Asking the Wrong Question" (pp.229-239)

The concept of "species" has been widely discussed over the centuries, giving rise to different definitions and ideas. Nowadays the whole subject acquires a renewed importance with the modern techniques of DNA sequencing, as well as the use of cladistics, statistics, etc.

In the abstract to this interesting article, Fitzhugh (of the Natural History of Los Angeles County) points out that the question "What are species?" should be advantageously preceded by "What are taxa?" The author then proceeds to define such concepts, in a way that to his mind complies "with the overarching goal of scientific inquiry".

The article should be useful for anyone interested in systematics.

~

John K. Tucker, "Jaspidiconus: what are the options?" (pp.250-255)

In this article, our good friend John Tucker comments on the paper "A comparison of adaptive radiation in Conidae and Conilithidae (Gastropoda: Conoidea) in the eastern and western Atlantic, together with an Iconography of the conilithid genus Jaspidiconus", by David Berschauer (*The Festivus* 47(2), pp.99-110, 2015).

According to abstract to Tucker's article, the "number of species of Jaspidiconus recognized in three recently published works are compared. These references varied in the number of species recognized as valid ranged from 6 to 36 taxa. […] Such variation among publications by different authors suggests that morphological species concepts are too subjective to allow direct comparisons among publications or identification of valid species. In contrast, use of molecular methods may avoid the problems of the subjective morphological species concepts. However, molecular methods are only valid when they are applied to geographically coded samples to arrive at clades in the phylogram."

The Festivus 48(2), May 2016

Edward J. Petuch & David P. Berschauer, "A New Species of Cone Shell (Gastropoda: Conidae) from the Saharan Coast of Northwestern Africa" (pp.93-99)

Lautoconus saharicus Petuch & Berschauer, 2016
Type locality: Dahkla (formerly Villa Cisneros), western side of Dahkla Bay, Western Sahara (formerly Spanish Sahara), western coast of Sahara Desert, northwestern Africa
Etymology: Named for the Sahara Desert, which is adjacent to, and surrounds, the type locality

Clearly related to *L. guanche*, from the Canary Islands, *L. saharicus* differs in a number of aspects that the authors list in eight points involving the general profile of the body whorl (stockier in *L. saharicus*, more protracted in *L. guanche*), the shoulder (more rounded and less angled in *L. saharicus*), the spire (more elevated in *L. guanche*), the general colouration of the shell (brighter and darker in *L. saharicus*), the colour of the aperture (dark purplish-brown in *L. saharicus*, against light tan-brown in *L. guanche*), the anterior spiral sculpture of the shell (finer and with more numerous threads in *L. saharicus*), and the colouration of the spire whorls (wide dark brown flammules in *L. saharicus*, thin, irregularly spaced pale tan ones in *L. guanche*).

Malacologia 88, August 2015

Tiziano Cossignani & Ramiro Fiadeiro, "Due nuovi coni da Capo Verde" (pp. 3-5)

Africonus miguelfiadeiroi Cossignani & Fiadeiro, 2015
Type locality: Baía das Gatas, Boa Vista Island, Cape Verde Islands
Etymology: Named for Miguel Fiadeiro, son of the second author

A. miguelfiadeiroi is briefly compared with *A. evorai* and *A. vulcanus*.

Africonus santaluziensis Cossignani & Fiadeiro, 2015
Type locality: Baía de Água Doce, Santa Luzia Island, Cape Verde Islands
Etymology: Named for Santa Luzia Island, where the type locality is situated

A. santaluziensis is briefly compared with *A. decorates* and *A. curralensis*.

Malacologia 91, May 2016

Sciteconus mpenjatiensis Veldsman, 2016
Type locality: Off Trafalgar, Southern KwaZulu-Natal Sub-Province, South Africa
Etymology: Named for the river that flows into the ocean near the type locality: Mpenjati River between Palm Beach and Trafalgar, southern KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

European Journal of Taxonomy 173, 2016

Manuel J. Tenorio & Magalie Castelin, "Genus Profundiconus Kuroda, 1956 (Gastropoda, Conoidea): Morphological and molecular studies, with the description of five new species from the Solomon Islands and New Caledonia"

Profundiconus maribelae Tenorio & Castelin, 2016
Type locality: Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands
Etymology: Named for Maribel Albarrán Quintanilla, wife of the first author

Profundiconus virginiae Tenorio & Castelin, 2016
Type locality: Coral Sea, Plateau des Chesterfield, New Caledonia
Etymology: Named for Virginie Héros, assistant curator of molluscs at the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle of Paris

Profundiconus barazeri Tenorio & Castelin, 2016
Type locality: Coral Sea, N. W. Bellona Reef, Plateau des Chesterfield, New Caledonia
Etymology: Named for Captain Jean-François Barazer, first captain on IRD's research vessel Alis

Profundiconus puillandrei Tenorio & Castelin, 2016
Type locality: Banc Jumeau Est, Norfolk Ridge, New Caledonia
Etymology: Named for Dr. Nicolas Puillandre, mollusc curator at the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle of Paris

Profundiconus neocaledonicus Tenorio & Castelin, 2016
Type locality: Banc Crypthélia, Norfolk Ridge, New Caledonia
Etymology: Named for New Caledonia, where the species is present in deep water

The present article consists of a detailed review of the genus Profundiconus Kuroda, 1956, including a discussion of the morphological characters of the shell, radular tooth and internal anatomy of species in the genus.

But besides that, it also includes a study of Profundiconus material collected by dredging in deep water during different scientific campaigns carried out in the Solomon Islands, Madagascar, Papua New Guinea and New Caledonia.

A close examination of phylogeny showed several clades containing individuals that did not match any of the known species of Profundiconus, which led the authors to introduce five new species. Furthermore, *Profundiconus teramachii* forma *neotorquatus* (da Motta, 1984) is raised to specific status as *P. neotorquatus* (da Motta, 1984).

Visaya 4(4), November 2015

Guido T. Poppe & Sheila P. Tagaro, "A spectacular new Conus (Conidae) from the Philippines" (pp.71-76)

Conus admirationis Poppe & Tagaro, 2015
Type locality: Sulu Island, Philippines
Etymology: From the Latin "admirationis" meaning "surprise", "wonder", "astonishment", "admiration", etc., because "the discovery of such a large new species in the southern Philippines came as a 'surprise'"

The new species was described from a single, relatively large (almost 60 mm) specimen, and is compared with *C. oishii* Shikama, 1977, *C. sibogae* Schepman, 1013, *C. dampierensis* Coomans & Filmer, 1985 and *C. limpusi* Röckel & Korn, 1990.

Conchylia 45(1-2), January 2015

Felix Lorenz, "*Conus (Sciteconus) algoensis norpothi* n. ssp., a new subspecies from Cape Agulhas, South Africa (Gastropoda: Conidae)" (pp.51-54)

Conus (Sciteconus) algoensis norpothi Lorenz, 2015
Type locality: Cape Agulhas, South Africa
Etymology: Named for Dr. Rainer Norpoth of Münster, Germany

The new subspecies of *C. (S.) algoensis* described in the present paper is separated from others by its larger shell, more slender shape, straight spire, darker, more compact color pattern, and less developed anterior spiral ribs.

Xenophora Taxonomy 10, January 2016

Éric Monnier, António Monteiro & Loïc Limpalaër, "*Phasmoconus (Phasmoconus) tenorioi* (Gastropoda: Conidae), a new species from the Red Sea" (pp.14-24)

Phasmoconus (Phasmoconus) tenorioi Monnier, Monteiro & Limpalaër 2016
Type locality: Ras Gurnut, Dahlak Archipelago, Eritrea, Southern Red Sea
Etymology: Named for Dr. Manuel Jimenez Tenorio, Cádiz, Spain

The Introduction to this paper explains that "at least since the mid-1990s, a few specimens obtained in several localities of the Dahlak Archipelago and the Gulf of Aqaba […] found their way into a number of private collections. Röckel et al (1995) acknowledged the existence of 7 known specimens, in the collections of Peled, Monteiro, Nicolay, Raybaudi Massilia, Filmer and Röckel.

It was soon apparent that these specimens represented an as yet undescribed species, distinct from *P. (P.) jickelii* and a few other look-alikes. [In their *Manual of the Living Conidae*] Röckel et al showed it as Conus species no. 33 and no further efforts were made since that time to study the existing specimens or describe the new species. In the meantime, a few more specimens have been located (currently in the collections of Monnier and da Motta) and in the present paper we are describing them as a distinct species."

Xenophora Taxonomy 11, April 2016

Manuel J. Tenorio, Felix Lorenz & Michel Dominguez, "New insights into *Conus jourdani* da Motta, 1984 (Gastropoda, Conidae), an endemic species from Saint Helena Island" (pp.32-42)

Back in 1984, A. J. (Bob) da Motta described the new taxon *Conus jourdani*, from Saint Helena Island. The description was based on dead, beached samples and the species has always remained rather elusive. The main reason for this was of course the remoteness of Saint Helena, which even today does not have an airport and is only accessible by sea, a major problem for anyone considering a visit to such an isolated island in South Atlantic.

Recently, however, a relatively sizeable sample of live taken specimens could be brought to the attention of the authors, who were thus able to examine the radular morphology and to sequence the DNA establishing the phylogenetic relationships of the species with other cone snails from West Africa and the Mediterranean (in the process confirming the placement of the species in the genus *Varioconus* da Motta, 1991); moreover, the shells of the studied specimens show a remarkable and rather unexpected variability.

Information and illustrations for recently described species can be found in Paul Kersten's Checklist (*www.theconecollector.com*) as well as in Tucker & Tenorio's regular updates of their Illustrated Catalog of the Living Cone Species (*www.conecatalogupdate.com*).

NOTE: In this listing of articles describing new taxa, we are not considering a few published in Malacologia that introduce names for forms, since they have no taxonomic value.

The 4th International Cone Meeting

The project "The Cone Collector" started in October 2006, when a pilot issue of our bulletin – adequately numbered "zero" – was sent to a number of cone shell collectors throughout the world. It quickly developed into a more ambitious venture, which includes: a) the bulletin; b) a website with a vast wealth of information for Cone lovers and researchers, including the well-known works of Paul Kersten, Mike Filmer and the important Manual of the Living Conidae, by Dieter Röckel, Werner Korn and Alan Kohn; c) international meetings.

The International Cone Meetings began in 2010, when we got together in Stuttgart, at the Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde. The whole event met with a great success, which encouraged us to organize the second meeting in 2012, at the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de La Rochelle. The third meeting took place in Madrid, at the Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, in 2014.

The current year is particularly significant for TCC, since we are celebrating our 10th anniversary! And we will hold the 4th International Cone Meeting at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, in Brussels, from the 30th September to the 2nd October.

The Museum houses many important shell collections, including the famous Philippe Dautzenberg collection, which runs into several million specimens and is in fact one of the largest in the world; the museum is also famous for the Bernissart Iguanodons fossils found in the late 19th century and on display there. We sincerely express our thanks to Prof. Thierry Backeljau, of the museum's directorate, as well as other museum staff, for welcoming our meeting.

The program has already been announced and certainly includes many points of great interest:

Program

Friday, September 30th

16:00 Registration of attendees

A welcome packet will be provided to attendees with program, abstracts, directory of attendees, information about Brussels and the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, name tag. The Museum Cafeteria will be open for snacks and discussion/get together.

Possible Guided Tour of the Museum Cone Collection. Information will be available at the registration desk.

18:00 Welcome by Representative of the Hosting Institution. Reception (with aperitif) at the Museum.

Saturday, October 1st

The registration desk will be open from 9:00 h.

Morning session. Chairman: Eric Monnier

9:30 Opening of the Meeting by Manuel J. Tenorio (Deputy Chairman of the organizing committee)

Opening Remarks by Representative of the Koninklijke Belgische Vereniging voor Conchyliologie (KBVC) and the Societé Belge de Malacologie ASBL (SBM).

Introduction of the Guest of Honour: António J. A. Monteiro

10:00 Plenary Lecture by António J. A. Monteiro (Lisbon, Portugal): "Cone shell collecting - a lifetime passion"

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 Session Lecture by Prof. Thierry Backeljau (Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels,

Belgium): “The Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences and its Cone holdings.”

12:00 Session Lecture by Andre Delsaerdt (Aarschot, Belgium): “Conidae from the Solomon Islands”

12:30 Session Lecture by Prof. Manuel J. Tenorio (INBIO-University of Cádiz, Puerto Real, Spain): “The genus Profundiconus: Cone snails from the Deep Sea"

13:00 Lunch (at your own expense, locals to be suggested)

Afternoon session. Chairwoman: Lucy Muehleisen

14:15 Group photograph

14:30 Session Lecture by Dr. Nicolas Puillandre (Muséum Nationale d’Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France): “Conoidea and cone snail systematics: lessons from Next-Generation Sequencing”

15:00 Session Lecture by Dr. Sebastien Dutertre (Institut des Biomolécules Max Mousseron, Université de Montpellier, Montpellier, France): “Venom-ecology relationships in cone snails"

15.30 Session Lecture by Dr. Aude Violette (Alphabiotoxine Laboratory, Montroeul-au-bois, Belgium): “Conus venoms and their pharmacological potential”

16:00 Coffee break

16:30 Results from the Workshop by Michaël Rabiller (MHN-La Rochelle, France): “Explaining Cones to young people”

18.00 Official closing remarks by António Monteiro. Guided Tour of the Museum Cone Collection, in groups of 10 people max.

20:00 Official dinner at the Hotel Renaissance

Sunday, October 2nd

10:00–14:00 Program to be announced...

This is certainly an exciting program, with an excellent panel of speakers who will provide invaluable information about many aspects of cone shell biology and systematics, as well as others having to do with collecting.

The Organizing Committee for the 4th International Cone Meeting has the following composition:

Chairman: António J. Monteiro (Lisbon, Portugal)

Deputy Chairman and Secretary: Manuel Jiménez Tenorio (Cádiz, Spain)

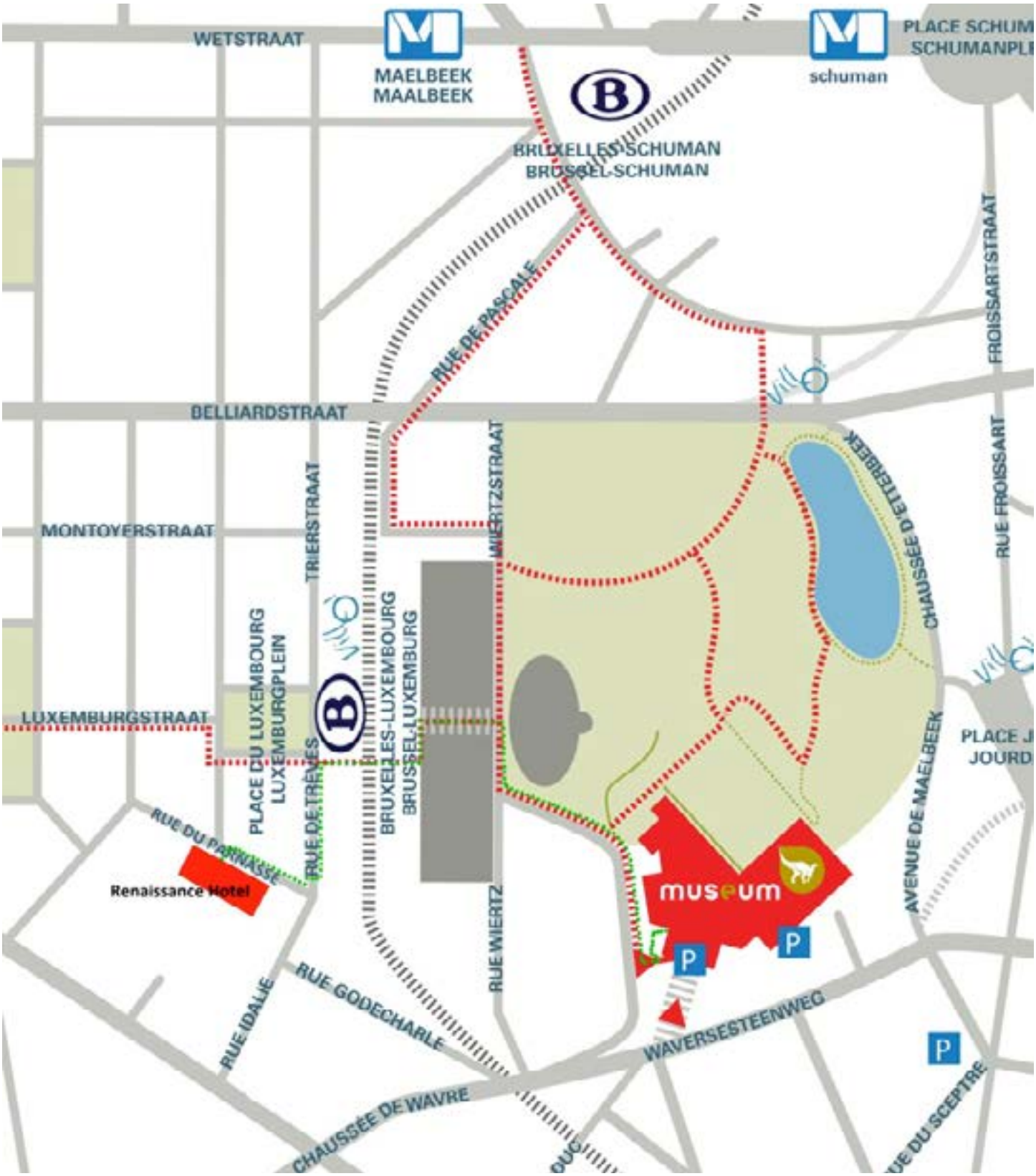
Member of the Steering Committee: Lucy Muehleisen (Maryland, USA)

Members of the Local Committee: Yves Terryn (Ghent, Belgium) and Marc Keppens (Gavere, Belgium)

Member of the Hosting Institution: Thierry Backeljau (Brussels, Belgium)

We are also happy to have the collaboration of the Société Belge de Malacologie ASBL and of the Koninklijke Belgische Vereniging voor Conchyliologie V.Z.W.

Further information will be forwarded when available and relevant. For the moment, however, we would like to mention a few points related to the location of the museum and suggested hotel. You will find both marked in red in this map (opposite page).


WETSTRAAT
MAELBEEK
MAALBEEK
schuman
PLACE SCHUM
SCHUMANPLE
BRUXELLES-SCHUMAN
BRUSSEL-SCHUMAN
RUE DE PASCALE
FROISSARTSTRAAT
BELLIARDSTRAAT
MONTOYERSTRAAT
TRIERSTRAAT
WIERTZSTRAAT
CHAUSSÉE D'ETTERBEEK
RUE FROISSART
PLACE DU LUXEMBOURG
LUXEMBURGPLEIN
BRUXELLES-LUXEMBOURG
BRUSSEL-LUXEMBURG
LUXEMBURGSTRAAT
RUE DE TREVES
RUE DU PARNASSE
Renaissance Hotel
museum
AVENUE DE MAELBEEK
PLACE J
JOURD
RUE WIERTZ
RUE GODECHARLE
RUE IDALIE
WAVERSESTEENWEG
CHAUSSÉE DE WAVRE
P
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P

As can be gathered from this map, the Renaissance Hotel is quite close to the Museum, within easy walking distance. Here is some relevant information:

Travel Information

Relevant addresses:

Renaissance Brussels Hotel
Rue du Parnasse 19
1050 Brussels
Front desk: +32 (0)2 5052929

All relevant information:
http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/brubr-renaissance-brussels-hotel/

Royal Belgian Institute for Natural Sciences
Rue Vautier 29
1000 Brussels
Reception: +32 (0)2 627 42 11 (on weekdays till 5PM)

Some of you will arrive by air into Brussels International Airport. For those of you not familiar with the airport and for the latest status of check in times, baggage checks, arrivals and departures can be found at *http://www.brusselsairport.be/en/*

Arriving into Belgium via air:

From the airport a number of options are available for you to get either to the hotel or the museum:

Pick up: if you are being picked up by friends or relatives, please have a look at the latest security arrangements at *http://www.brusselsairport.be/en/passngr/to_from_brussels_airport/pickupdropoff/*
Car rental: a number of major car rental companies operate on the airport such as Hertz, Avis and SIXT. Reservations and further information can be found on their respective websites and are assembled here: *http://www.brusselsairport.be/en/passngr/to_from_brussels_airport/rental_car/*

Taxis with a taximeter are permanently available in front of the arrivals hall. The fare from the airport to the city center of Brussels is normally around € 45. Licensed taxis can be recognized by the blue and yellow emblem. Travelers are advised to avoid unlicensed taxis!

Train: Up to 6 trains an hour connect the airport to Brussels North, Brussels Central and Brussels Midi stations. The following lines all pass through the 3 above mentioned stations:

Trains with final destinations Blankenberge/ Knokke – Oostende – De Panne – Mons (Bergen) – Tournai (Doornik) – Gent-Sint-Pieters

Communtor trains stopping in Brussels North (Nord), Central and South (Midi)

The most efficient way to get to the 'European Quarter' area is to get off at Brussels North (Nord) and take a connecting train (direction Dinant or Ottignies or Arlon) to Brussels-Luxembourg station. This a separate substation directly beneath the 'European Quarter' within walking distance of the hotel and museum and takes only minutes from Brussels Nord to Luxembourg.

Tickets can be bought at automated or manned counters, or can be purchased online at b-rail.be or through the app. Please be advised to check the timetables at every station for any changes in stops or timing.

Arriving into Belgium via train:

All international trains arrive at Brussels South (Midi). These include trains from ICE, Thalys and Eurostar. The least complicated way to get to the event area is either by taxi or train. Taxis with a taximeter are permanently available at the entrance near the international desks. By train, we advise you to take any

train direction Nord, and follow the instructions as mentioned above. Tickets can be bought at automated or manned counters, or can be purchased online at b-rail.be or through the app. On the website or with the app, you'll be able to schedule and follow your itinerary.

Arriving into Belgium by car:

Relevant addresses are listed above and should be sufficient for any satellite navigation system.

Finding parking space in the streets surrounding the hotel and museum and on the museum premises can be daunting. The hotel has on site parking available at 21 euro per day. Please let me know in advance if we need to reserve a space for your car. You can also let the hotel know directly or upon arrival.

Hotel and museum area

The distance between the two is about 1 km and a nice stroll on foot, which will take you through the European Parliament building/area. A local area map has been attached here.

The museum access area has and will be renovated. The old main entrance, behind the wooden Iguanodon, was closed for a while and a new side entrance was opened. This is or is due to change back: the old, now renovated, main entrance will be open again and the side access will be for exiting only. A security procedure is installed since a few months with metal detectors.

The procedure for access to the museum and the event will be sent to all registrants shortly before the actual event in order to give you the most recent information. Each participant will receive a badge upon registration. It is necessary to keep this on your person and well visible at all times during your time in the museum. This way, museum staff and organizers will have an easy way of checking your access level and it will ensure a smooth event. This badge will also serve to identify you at the Saturday evening dinner and Sunday cone shell show.

We do hope to see as many of you as possible in Brussels next October. We will have a great meeting, just like in previous occasions.

Do register soon! That will really help us organize everything! All details concerning registration can be found in our website, by visiting the "Meetings" section (see at the top of the Homepage!).

Comments on the distribution of *Conus jourdani* da Motta, 1984

Bill Fenzen

I attended the Paris Shell Show this past March. To make trips to European shell shows more interesting and a better value, I try to find other opportunities to study cones during these trips. This year, I arranged to visit Eric Monnier in the week before the show. Eric has a large collection of cones arranged so that it is easy to see similar species and forms together. After the show, I got permission to visit the State Museum of Natural History Stuttgart (German: Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde Stuttgart, or abbreviated SMNS). This collection includes cone collections formed by famous cone collectors such as Dieter Röckel, Bob da Motta, and Werner Korn. You can read about an earlier visit I made to the Stuttgart museum to study cones in *The Cone Collector* 13 (Fenzan & Niederhöfer, 2010).

While visiting Eric, he mentioned that a paper was being written on *Conus jourdani* da Motta, 1984 for the next issue of *Xenophora Taxonomy* (Tenorio, Lorenz, & Dominguez, 2016). It would contain new information about the species based on recent discovery of live shells off the type locality of St. Helena Island in the southern Atlantic Ocean. He recalled seeing specimens of *Conus jourdani* said to be from Ascension Island (about 700 miles from St. Helena) in the SMNS during a past visit and was puzzled that this information was not in the draft article he was sent to review. Eric asked me to try and learn if there was any evidence, at SMNS, aside from the label with the lot he had seen, that this species had been found off Ascension Island.

During the shell show, I had the opportunity to speak with Manuel J. Tenorio about this issue when he told me he would be one of the authors of the forthcoming paper. He also asked me to try and determine if there was any evidence in Stuttgart that *Conus jourdani* had been found off Ascension Island.

When I arrived in Stuttgart, I was met by Dr. Ira Richling, curator of the mollusk collections. She helped me locate all the lots of Conus jourdani in the museum collections and provided me with journal records that were not stored with the shells due to space constraints. Of the material in the collection, only one lot contained specimens labeled as being collected off Ascension Island (fig. 1). Other specimens were labeled as being from the type locality on St. Helena, so they did not offer any new information on distribution of the species.

Labels in the box with the two shells helped confirm that Eric's memory was accurate, as the lot contained a label indicating he had studied the shells in 2011. One of the labels provided Mr. da Motta's collection number (Z95.1 95.2B) which refers to an entry in his collection catalog. This catalog is kept in the curator's office in a locked file cabinet. Dr. Richling provided the correct volume of the catalog to me so I could photograph the entry for the *Conus jourdani* lot from Ascension Island (fig. 2). In this case, da Motta had a data slip from the supplier of the specimens attached in the catalog next to the line item for the lot. This data slip indicated the shells had been received from Mr. Edward T. Schelling, a well known dealer of specimen shells.

On return home in late March, I looked in my own collection and found a set of four *Conus jourdani* also labeled as coming from Ascension Island. In fact, my label (fig. 3) looks identical to that in Mr. da Motta's catalog. My specimens are also as worn as the two in SMNS, so it was not as surprising as it could have been to find the same label with my shells.

Next, I sent Mr. Schelling an e-mail and asked him if he could recall any information that could help confirm the Ascension Island locality on his labels. He telephoned me in response to my e-mail and told me that all he could remember is that he got the shells from Ken Jourdan, for whom the species is named. He offered to forward my e-mail to Mr. Jourdan in case he could provide more information,

In early April, I received an e-mail from Mr. Jourdan in response to my forwarded e-mail about the source of


Staatl. Museum für Naturkunde in Stuttgart
Z 95.1 95.2B
C. jourdani
Ascension
St. Helena
JOURDANI
PAN AM BEACH
ASCENSION Is.
photographed by:
ERIC MONNIER, ALAIN ROBIN, LOIN LIMPALAER, November 2011
ZI0091202
<< Collection Catalog volume
Line entry for C. jourdani from Ascension I.
Conus jourdani daMotta, 1984
Found in sand and gravel, near large rocks,
low tides, off Pan Am Beach, Ascension Island
Collected from 1977 thru 1983.
Orginial data label for specimens in the lot
Conus jourdani daMotta, 1984
Found in sand and gravel, near large rocks,
low tides, off Pan Am Beach, Ascension Island.
Collected from 1977 thru 1983.

Conus jourdani specimens sold by Mr. Schelling. He told me the following:

1) He is positive that *Conus jourdani* was not found on Ascension Island. He believes that the bag sent with specimens of *Conus jourdani* to Mr. Schelling was sent with other shells from Ascension Island (e.g. *Luria lurida oceanica*, *Erosaria acicularis sanctaehelenae,* and *Harpa doris*), and data intended for these shells was also inadvertently applied to the *Conus jourdani* specimens.

2) He did not know that Mr. da Motta had any shells labeled as being from Ascension Island. He supposed they were received after he published the description of *Conus jourdani*.

3) He further provided the following information: "I spent a total of 7 years diving on Ascension, 5 of those years [19]76-[19]80 averaging a couple hundred dives a year. My dive partner during those years was Mac McDowall who spend [sic] over 20 years [studying] shells and photographing them [on Ascension]. We participated in every way possible to collect shells and never once did either of us find a piece of any cones. We TRIED! We dredged down to 200 f[ee]t plus, and had dives below 150 f[ee]t."

With this information available, I felt there was enough evidence to support the statement that *Conus jourdani* is endemic to St. Helena. Since the type locality designated in the original description (da Motta, 1884) was the only place where Ken Jourdan collected *Conus jourdani*, all the shells sold or otherwise distributed by Mr. Schelling are actually topotypes from Lot's Wife Ponds, St. Helena and not collected on "Pan Am Beach, Ascension Island" as stated on labels provided with these shells. I relayed all this information to both Eric Monnier and Manuel J. Tenorio to address the original request for investigation of the Ascension Island locality.

In addition to specimens in SMNS, and my collection, I believe there are other specimens of *Conus jourdani* in other private collections and/or museums with Ascension Island data. Ken Jourdan provided "a bag" of worn *Conus jourdani* to Mr. Schelling. I have seen specimens on an internet auction site. Hopefully, these can be located and labels corrected to avoid ambiguity in future studies of this species.

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank Dr. Eric Monnier, cone enthusiast and friend, for his hospitality and routine assistance on cone matters. Dr. Ira Richling of the State Museum of Natural History Stuttgart assisted in helping me locate specimens and Bob da Motta's journal entry for the *Conus jourdani* lot said to be from Ascension Island. Ed Schelling and Ken Jourdan provided critical unpublished information on the source of shells. Dr. Manuel Jimenez Tenorio also reviewed the manuscript and provided valuable feedback.

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Tenorio, M. J., Lorenz, F., & Dominguez, M. 2016. New insights into Conus jourdani da Motta, 1984 (Gastropoda, Conidae), an endemic species from Saint Helena Island. *Xenophora Taxonomy* 11, April 2016: 32-42.

Report on a recent trip to the Cape Verde Islands

Antonio Ventura & Marco Bettocchi

For many years, Antonio Ventura has been involved in collecting seashells of the Conidae family, with special attention to the species living in the Cape Verde Archipelago, either endemic or with a wider distribution. Being very fond of diving and collecting specimens himself, he has visited several times some of the islands of Cape Verde, having therefore the opportunity to witness personally the very great number of species and endemic varieties of Cone shells living in different locations.

In 1982, Marco Bettocchi started his collection of Cone shells from all over the world. As well as Antonio, he has travelled to several countries, self-collecting many of the specimens in his collection. At the end of 2010 he decided to devote his attention exclusively to Cape Verde Cone shells. Till now he has only visited two of the Cape Verde islands: Boa Vista and Santiago. Next August he will visit the island of São Vicente where he is planning to move after retirement, possibly two years from now.

In November 2015, during one of his usual trips, Antonio Ventura, visited the NW coast of Santiago Island with the purpose of getting some specimens of the endemic Cone species living in that area (*Africonus verdensis* Trovão, 1979) in different locations and, at the same time, of checking for the existence of other species of Conidae on that part of the island.

Unlike other islands of the Cape Verde Archipelago, until now only three endemic species of Conidae have been described from Santiago (*Africonus verdensis*, *Africonus nelsontiagoi* Cossignani e Fiadeiro, 2014, and *Africonus anthonyi* Petuch, 1975) even though some doubts subsist concerning the third species, as in the place from where the first specimens were described (Baía do Inferno, in Santiago) no others have been subseqently found, every additional specimens having been collected in Sal Island.

In November 2015 then, Antonio concentrated his diving activities mainly in Tarrafal, where, besides some *A. verdensis* as he expected to get, he collected three more specimens, about same size as *A. verdensis*, but showing a completely different shape and chromatic pattern. Once the periostracum had been removed, as well as fouling limestone (one of the shells was crabbed), Antonio realized that colour and pattern were very similar to another kind of Cone shell previously not reported as living in Santiago but only found in Brava Island: *Africonus furnae* (Rolán 1990). Once in Italy, further examinations along with Marco, confirmed his first impression.

As Antonio had found only three specimens and since this species was supposed to be found only in Fajã de Água, Furna or Baía de Pedrinha (Rolán 1990, Monteiro et al 2004) in Brava Island, Antonio planned to effect further and more thorough investigations in order to confirm its presence also in Santiago, thus confirming an extension of the distribution area of *A. furnae*.

In may 2016, along with Marco, Antonio organized a new research trip to Santiago and, after one day stop (on May 3rd) in Lisbon – where both experienced the extremely kind hospitality of António Monteiro and his wife Helena –, they flew to Santiago on the 4th May, landing in Praia late in the afternoon.

Early in the morning on the 5th May, Marco and Antonio reached Pedra Badejo, where during a long dive along the rocky coast, they got a few spcimens of *Africonus nelsontiagoi* Cossignani e Fiadeiro, 2014, *Monteiroconus tabidus* (Reeve 1844), and *Chelyconus ermineus* (Born 1778).

In the evening Marco and Antonio rested in a small resort, directly on the beach of Tarrafal, the right start point from where they continued diving along the coast, until the 10th May, when they returned to Praia and from there flew back to Italy.

During the days they spent there, Antonio and Marco have explored the sea floor at an average depth of 3 to 10 m. As in other islands in the archipelago the sea environment is a mix of sand and rocks with stones and some seaweed. The action of the waves is pretty strong, even in some slightly more protected small bays. By chance, the sea was quite calm throughout our stay.

The species found are the ones reported from Santiago: *Trovaoconus venulatus*, *Chelyconus ermineus*, *Monteiroconus tabidus*, *Genuanoconus genuanus* (only one dead specimen), *Africonus verdensis*.

In the same environment as *A. verdensis*, some *A. furnae* have been found, so that the purpose of the trip has been fulfilled. Many times the two species were sharing the same location (e.g. a rock crevice).

This may help to confirm as correct to consider *A. furnae* a valid species unlike some articles and websites that describe it as a subspecies of *A. verdensis*. In our opinion *A. furnae* must be considered either as a distinct species or a form of *A. verdensis*.

Anyway the result of the whole experience allows us to confirm the extension of the distribution area of *A. furnae*. From its very first distribution range in Brava Island through colonies possibly living in Fogo Island (Tenorio 2013) has this species reached the West coast of Santiago Island? Was it already living there?

A couple of final questions:

Is there a colony of *A. verdensis* in Brava Island (or is there any report about it)? Is there any report of both species or forms (*A. verdensis* and *A. furnae*) confirmedly having been found in Fogo Island?

Africonus furnae

Africonus nelsontiagoi

Africonus verdensis

Cone Colloqium in Paris

António Monteiro

On the 24th June, 2016, the announced colloquium "CONE SNAILS and other CONOIDEA: from SYSTEMATIC to the use of CONOPEPTIDES as drugs" was held at the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers (CNAM), in Paris.

The event was organized by Éric Monnier, current president of the Association Française de Conchyliologie (AFC) and well-known as the author of many recently described new species of Cones, and benefitted from the support of the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle (MNHN), the Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR) and the AFC.

The organizing and scientific committee included:

Dr. Éric MONNIER (Président), Maître de Conférences au CNAM

Dr. Nicolas PUILLANDRE, Maître de Conférences au MNHN

Dr. Françoise GOUDEY-PERRIERE, Maître de Conférences (ret.)

Dr. Evelyne BENOIT, Chargée de Recherche au CNRS

A very interesting program had been prepared for participants:

8h30-8h45: Welcome by Pr. Clotilde FERROUD, Research Director at CNAM

8h45-12h15: Session 1 – La systématique des cônes et autres Conoidea

Moderator: Dr. Éric MONNIER, Maître de Conférences au CNAM

8h45-9h15: Pr. Philippe BOUCHET (MNHN, Paris) Exploration et découverte / APA et PIC : dialogue de sourds autour de la biodiversité

9h15-9h45: Dr. Nicolas PUILLANDRE (MNHN, Paris), La systématique moléculaire au secours des cônes et Conoidea

9h45-10h15: Dr. Manuel J. TENORIO (Inorganic Chemistry, Cádiz University, Spain), Cone radular anatomy as a proxy for phylogeny

10h15-10h45: Coffee-break – Posters

10h45-11h15: Mr. Loïc LIMPALAËR (AFC) Synthèse de la systématique actuelle des Conidae, présentation d'un ouvrage en préparation

11h15-11h45: Pr. Yuri KANTOR (Severtsov Institute of Ecology and Evolution, Moscow, Russia), Morphological evolution of the Conoidea and origin of envenomation mechanism

11h45-12h15: Dr. Alexander FEDOSOV (Severtsov Institute of Ecology and Evolution, Moscow, Russia) A step beyond Conus: what can systematics add to understanding of toxin's evolution in Conoidea

12h15-14h15: Buffet and posters at CNAM

14h15-17h45: Session 2 – Les conopeptides et leurs utilisations thérapeutiques

Moderator: Dr. Evelyne Benoit, (iBiTec-S, SIMOPRO, CEA de Saclay, Gif-sur-Yvette)

14h15-14h45: Dr. Evelyne BENOIT (iBiTec-S, SIMOPRO, CEA de Saclay, Gif-sur-Yvette), Vue d'ensemble sur les conopeptides, leur spécificité d'action et leur utilisation thérapeutique

14h45-15h15: Dr. Philippe FAVREAU (Service de Toxicologie de l'Environnement Bâti, Genève, Suisse) Recrutement d'hormones/de neuropeptides dans les venins de cônes

15h15-15h45: Dr. Sébastien DUTERTRE (Institut des Biomolécules Max Mousseron, Montpellier), Venom-ecology relationships in carnivorous cone snails with emphasis on defensive strategies

15h45-16h15: Coffee-break – Posters

16h15-16h45: Dr. Frédéric DUCANCEL (IMETI, CEA, Fontenay-aux-Roses), Utilisation des technologies « omiques » pour explorer les venins de cônes

16h45-17h15: Dr. Jordi MOLGO (iBiTec-S, SIMOPRO, CEA de Saclay, Gif-sur-Yvette), The vertebrate neuromuscular junction : a selected molecular target for conotoxins

17h15-17h45: Dr. Michel de WAARD (Grenoble), Thérapies innovantes issues de conopeptides: neutralisation d'un conopeptide létal par aptamère in vivo

17h45-18h00: Closing by Dr. Éric MONNIER, Maître de Conférences au CNAM

The organization was impeccable, the timing was perfect, the location was topnotch and the contents of the many talks – and of the posters too – were extremely interesting. All those present enjoyed a splendid event and certainly learned much about the aspects of Cone biology covered. It was particularly nice to see several students in the audience.

During coffee-breaks and at lunch time there was still plenty of time to mingle and discuss many details of what we had heard during the sessions, and other aspects relevant to the study of Cones. All participants were handed a 78 pages booklet with detailed summaries of the talks and posters presented.

All members of the organization, particularly my good friend Éric Monnier, are to be warmly congratulated by the great success of the colloquium. Other such initiatives are of course much to be desired!

World Record Specimens

Philippe Quiquandon

Cylindrus glorioceanus Poppe & Tagaro 2009
The Philippines
55+ mm

Dauciconus daucus connectens Adams, 1855
Martinique Island
51.5 mm

Vituliconus ferrugineus sophiae Brazier 1875
The Philippines
76,8 mm

Darioconus pennaceus ganensis Delsaerdt, 1988
The Maldives
63+ mm

Brisbane Shell Club Field Trip 2015

Remy Devorsine

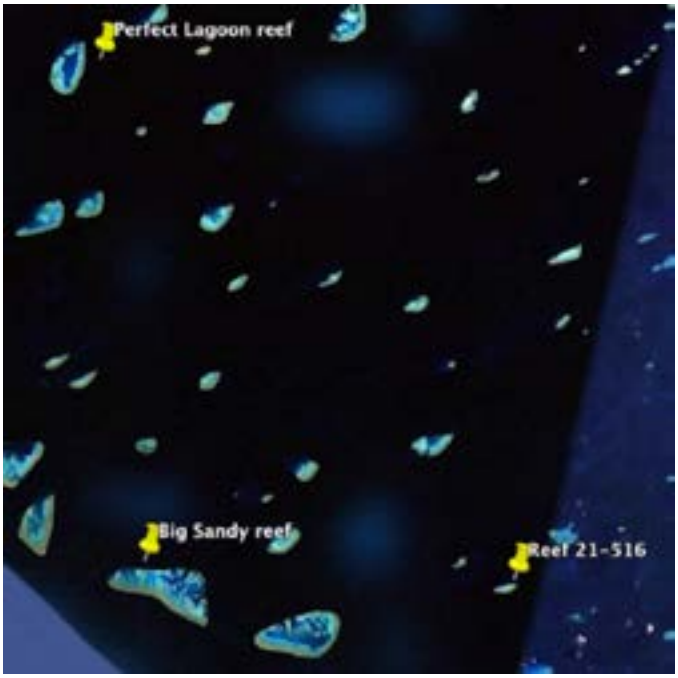
Cylindrus scottjordani Poppe , Monnier, Tagaro, 2012
The Philippines
97+ mm

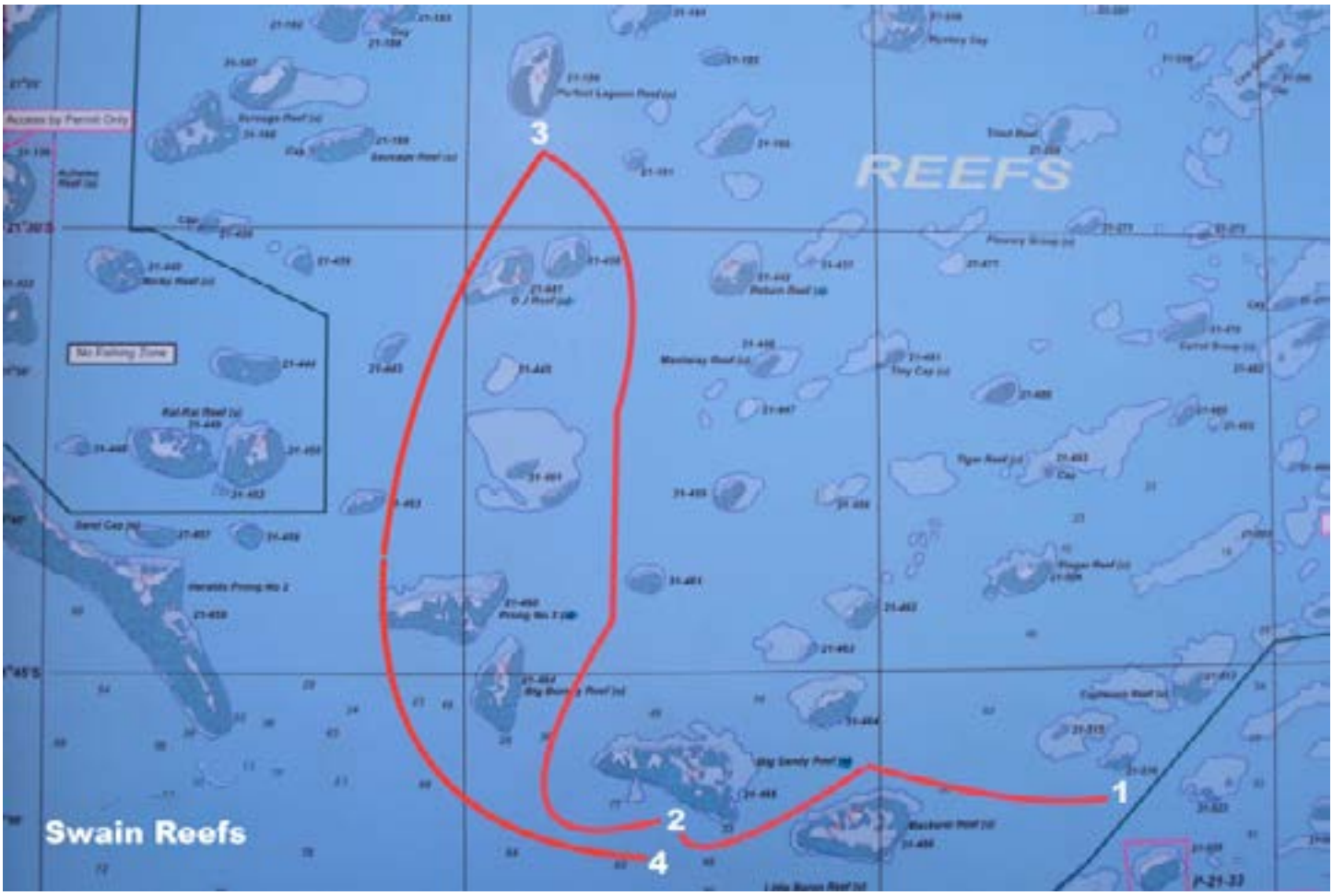
For the last 8 years I have been shelling the Australian Great Barrier Reef and some of the Australian Coral sea reefs and coral cays such as Frederick reef or East Diamond Islet with the Brisbane Shell Club. In 2015 we have been to the Swain reefs group and more precisely on three of them: reef 21-516, Big Sandy reef (21-465) and Perfect Lagoon reef (21-186) see map below.

This year we were 12 Sheller's on board of "Eastern Voyager" based at Gladstone, north Queensland. We left the marina on Saturday the 29 of September 2015 at 4:00 pm aiming for reef 21- 516 where we drop the anchor on Sunday 16 of September 2015 at around 10:00 am after steaming the all night. In strait line this reef is located at 250 km from Gladstone marina.

Below our ship anchored at reef 21-516 waiting for the low tide reef walking.

During that expedition we did day and night reef walking, dredging, reef fishing and snorkelling. The weather has been fantastic during the all trip. The catch where not super fantastic especially with the dredging which is usually pretty good in these area, but we did





get a few nice shells and every body was happy with what they did get. We did return to port on Sunday the 5th of October 2015 early in the morning.

Our next expedition in planned for October 2016.

My catch (above), the Eastern Voyager at Reef 21-516 (bottom-left), and results for one of our dredgings (bottom-right)

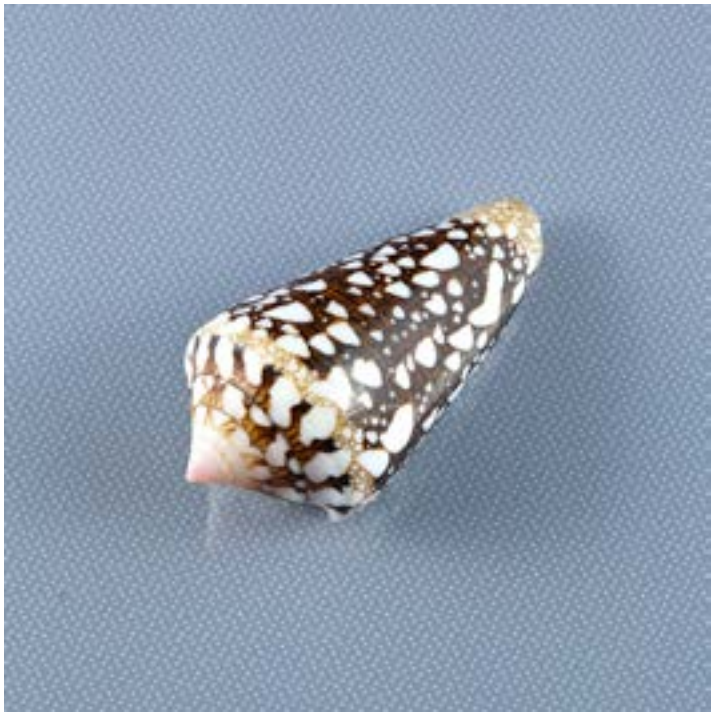
Cone Collection

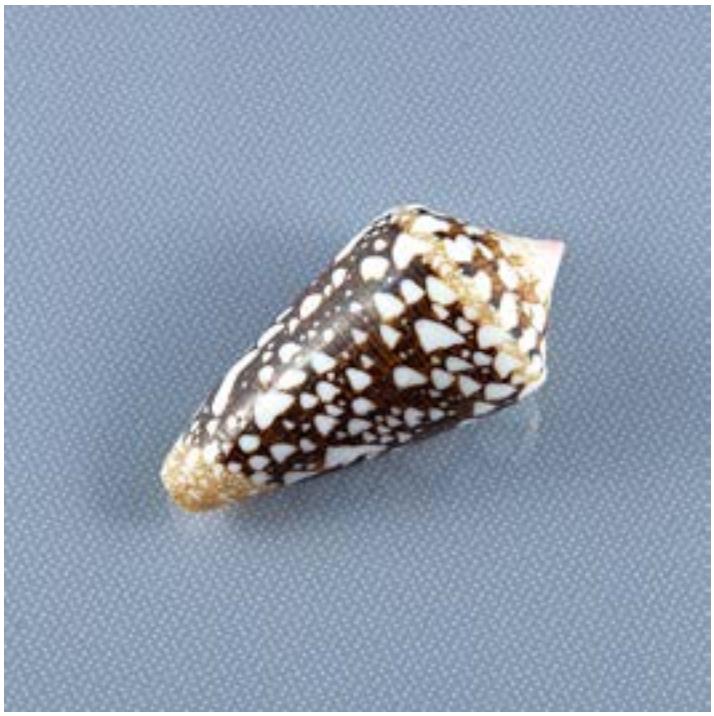
Selected specimens from the Remy Devorsine Collection

Turriconus acutangulus ("Chemnitz, J.H." Lamarck, J.B.P.A. de, 1810)
18 .0 mm
SE of Mooloolaba, QLD, Australia
Dredgd in 30 fathoms




Leptoconus ammiralis f. princeps
54.2 mm
Labuan, Zamboanga, Philippines



Leptoconus ammiralis f. temnes (Iredale, T., 1930)
72.7 mm
Capricorn Channel, Queensland, Australia




Leptoconus ammiralis f. temnes (Iredale, T., 1930)
89.6 mm
Capricorn Channel, Queensland, Australia




Conasprella articulata (Sowerby, G.B. III, 1873)
23.6 mm
SE of Mooloolabah, Qld, Australia
Dredged in 30 fathoms




Light-apertured *Textilia bullatus* (Linnaeus, 1758)
53.2 mm
Simuruka Isl, Marau, Solomons




Intermediate pattern between *Pionoconus circumcises* (Born, 1778) and *P. aurisiacus* (Linnaeus, 1758)
74.0 mm
Jolo Isl, Philippines




Bathyconus coriolisi (Röckel, Richard & Moolenbeek, 1995)
50.2 mm
SE of Mooloolabah, Qld, Australia
Dredged in 25 fathoms




Darioconus magnificus (Reeve, 1843)
79.2 mm
Lagoon Reef, Great Coral Barrier




Conus (s.l.) sp. (cf. *Vituliconus planorbis* (Born, 1778) and *V. vitulinus* (Hwass in Bruguière, 1798))
72.7 mm
Swain Reefs (perfect lagoon Reef, Great Coral Barrier)

Phasmoconus subulatus (Kiener, 1847) (or *Ph. solomonensis* Delsaerdt, 1992 ?)
33.2 mm
Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands




Volunteer Required

Volunteer required to take over as

Webmaster for the Cone Collector website

For a number of years André Poremski has acted as production manager of the magazine The Cone Collector and also as webmaster for the administration, updating, integration of new material and communication with the contributors.

We would like a volunteer with some experience of website management to join the team with a view to taking over as webmaster. Someone who has developed their own website would be typical of the skill level required.

The role would include

a. Working with steering committee of Bill Fenzan, Manuel Tenorio and António Monteiro to suggest and review new ideas.

b. Redesigning, creating, managing the homepages which link the various sections.

c. Encouraging community members to submit new content and integrating any new sections.

d. Loading any updates to current sections (about 20 per year) and ensuring website backups.

Each of the current sections has an editor and a production manager who are responsible for creating the updated pages for their section. The page updates are prepared and tested in Dropbox by the production manager, ready for the webmaster to synchronise the folders.

The objective of the website is to provide high quality material for all levels of cone collector, to encourage community sharing of knowledge and to attract more interest in cones from other collectors who visit the website.
One of the advantages is that the webmaster is at the centre of the flow of information of new developments in the world of cones.

It is intended that the website will remain a source of knowledge based content and that commercial activities will not be supported.

If you are interested in exploring this opportunity further then please contact António Monteiro.

We hope to see your article in the next TCC!